

# PH.D. IN COMMUNICATION



The Ph.D. in Communication trains scholars, teachers, and professionals to engage social, political, and professional challenges using advanced expertise in the field of communication.

The program is shaped by the three areas of expertise present in our department. These three areas examine communication and engagement from three perspectives:

- 1. Interpersonal, Intercultural, and Organizational Communication:** For many individuals, engagement with the public world grows out of their relational lives and is expressed in the organizations to which they belong and in which they work. Professors and students in this area explore communication in relational or interpersonal systems, organizing and work contexts, and within national and global arenas. Here, the focus is on exploring how individuals respond to and participate as active members in various forms of community, paying special attention to the ways in which communicative actions can create, sustain, and disable engaged citizenship.
- 2. Film and Media Studies:** In the contemporary, globalized world, engaged citizenship often flows through media and is represented and enacted within popular culture. Professors and students in the area explore the mediation of public culture with particular attention to film, television, digital discourse, and the globalization of media institutions. Here, the focus is on the construction of critical media literacies and understandings of how our mediated forms of communication engage or disengage individuals as community members, empowering or disempowering them as political agents.
- 3. Rhetoric and Civic Engagement:** In popular conversation, “rhetoric” is often understood to mean empty speech. Communication scholars, however, trace the meaning of “rhetoric” to antiquity when thinkers such as Aristotle and Cicero placed rhetorical studies at the center of democratic engagement. Since then, rhetorical studies have explored public engagement and community building, examining the role of communication in civic life. The resurgence of rhetorical studies in the humanities is founded on a renewed sense of the importance of rhetoric to engaged citizenship in the 21st century. Professors and students in this area explore the role of public communication in creating, maintaining, and undermining civic culture.

Although these three areas of departmental emphasis are distinct, the strength of the program is the collaborative overlapping of these three areas. As a community, we developed a cutting-edge doctoral program

that takes advantage of the shared commitment to study and engage in transformative communication.

[Students interested in graduate work should refer to the Graduate and Professional Bulletin.](#)

## Requirements Effective Fall 2017

Students must have earned an M.A. in Communication Studies or a related discipline. A maximum of 27 credits at the master's degree level may be accepted toward the Ph.D.

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Master's Degree Credit</b>		<b>27</b>
<b>The following prerequisite courses should be included/ transferred in from the M.A. degree:</b> <sup>1</sup>		
SPCM 601	History of Rhetorical Theory	
SPCM 612	Rhetorical Criticism	
SPCM 638	Communication Research Methods	
SPCM 639	Communication Theory	
SPCM 646	Media Theory	
SPCM 675	Speech Communication Pedagogy	
<b>Required Ph.D. Courses</b>		<b>54</b>
SPCM 701	Seminar in Academic Writing	3
SPCM 702	Professional Writing and Public Scholarship	3
SPCM 712	Critical/Cultural Analysis in Communication	3
SPCM 793	Seminar: Communications Research Methods	3
SPCM 798	Research	6
SPCM 799	Dissertation	12
SPCM Graduate Electives		24
<b>Program Total Credits:</b>		<b>81</b>

A minimum of 81 credits are required to complete this program.

<sup>1</sup> If equivalent coursework is not transferred in as part of the M.A. degree, these prerequisite courses must be completed in addition to the 54 credits required for the Ph.D.

## Requirements for All Graduate Degrees

For more information, please visit Requirements for All Graduate Degrees (<https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/graduate-bulletin/graduate-study/procedures-requirements-all-degrees/>) in the Graduate and Professional Bulletin (<https://catalog.colostate.edu/general-catalog/graduate-bulletin/>).

## Summary of Procedures for the Master's and Doctoral Degrees

NOTE: Each semester the Graduate School publishes a schedule of deadlines. Deadlines are available on the Graduate School website (<https://graduateschool.colostate.edu/deadline-dates/>). Students should consult this schedule whenever they approach important steps in their careers.

Forms (<https://graduateschool.colostate.edu/forms/>) are available online.

Step	Due Date
1. Application for admission (online)	Six months before first registration
2. Diagnostic examination when required	Before first registration
3. Appointment of advisor	Before first registration
4. Selection of graduate committee	Before the time of fourth regular semester registration
5. Filing of program of study (GS Form 6)	Before the time of fourth regular semester registration
6. Preliminary examination (Ph.D. and PD)	Two terms prior to final examination
7. Report of preliminary examination (GS Form 16) - (Ph.D. and PD)	Within two working days after results are known
8. Changes in committee (GS Form 9A)	When change is made
9. Application for Graduation (GS Form 25)	Refer to published deadlines from the Graduate School Website
9a. Reapplication for Graduation (online)	Failure to graduate requires Reapplication for Graduation (online) for the next time term for which you are applying
10. Submit thesis or dissertation to committee	At least two weeks prior to the examination or at the discretion of the graduate committee
11. Final examination	Refer to published deadlines from the Graduate School Website
12. Report of final examination (GS Form 24)	Within two working days after results are known; refer to published deadlines from the Graduate School website
13. Submit a signed Thesis/ Dissertation Submission Form (GS Form 30) to the Graduate School and Submit the Survey of Earned Doctorates (Ph.D. only) prior to submitting the electronic thesis/ dissertation	Refer to published deadlines from the Graduate School website.
14. Submit the thesis/dissertation electronically	Refer to published deadlines from the Graduate School website
15. Graduation	Ceremony information is available from the Graduate School website